

STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)

Applicant: MOJAVE DESERT-MOUNTAIN RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Project Title: SAND CANYON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Application Number: SNC 080116

PROJECT SCOPE

The project goal is to expand and enhance the environmental education program. The Sand Canyon Environmental Education (SEEP) provides classroom and field environmental education programs for fourth and fifth grade students in the Indian Wells Valley and surrounding communities. The SEEP contributes to the protection and the understanding of the importance of water resources in the watershed and the groundwater basin. In the fall, students learn about the water cycle and living in the rain shadow. In the spring, the educational program is held in the field where groups of students rotate through five outdoor stations where they learn basic principles about hydrology, plant adaptations to water availability, animals, archaeology. Coordinating with Sierra Sands Unified School District, all materials are developed to support and meet the school curriculum framework. The program is also available to private schools, charter schools and home school students. Funding from this grant will provide the educational resources for SEEP to continue to reach 400-500 students annually. Over 1,000 hours of volunteer time are contributed to the program annually. The program has been maintained for fourteen years and is now in need of updated equipment. This funding will provide:

- (1) Equipment for the SEEP program:
 - a. 15 stereoscopes,
 - b. tabletop watershed and groundwater models,
 - c. computer software,
 - d. flat screen monitors,
 - e. a 6'x10' covered trailer, and
 - f. museum specimens
- (2) Replication and reproduction of environmental education outreach materials,
- (3) Staff time, and
- (4) Updating the website

Finally, the success of the SEEP program will be measured using the Conservancy's performance measures including evaluating measurable changes in knowledge regarding improved understanding of stewardship on public lands; improved understanding of watershed health issues; understanding of recreational impacts on

wildlife and habitats; and improved understanding of groundwater issues and potential contamination of groundwater.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Purchase equipment	March 2009-May 2009
Replicate and reproduce outreach materials	April 2009-June 2009
Update website	May 2009-August 2009
Quantify and report performance measures	May 2009-August 2009
Final Report	October 2009
FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	November 30, 2009

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Equipment	\$17,051
Taxidermy services to prepare museum specimens	5,000
Outreach materials reproduction	2,500
Website update production and maintenance costs	5,000
Staff time	1,000
Administration	3,500
GRAND TOTAL	\$34,051

PROJECT SUPPORT LETTERS

- Bureau of Land Management
- Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District
- Maturango Museum

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

- Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior